Work Task D9: Flannelmouth and Razorback Sucker Monitoring Below Davis

Dam

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Purpose: Monitor razorback sucker and flannelmouth sucker populations in

the Colorado River between Davis Dam and Lake Havasu.

Conservation Measures: RASU6, FLSU2, and FLSU3

Long-term Goal: Razorback sucker and flannelmouth sucker are target fish species

for the LCR MSCP program. Monitoring of flannelmouth sucker will be supported by the LCR MSCP for at least five years. Razorback sucker stock assessments are expected to continue as part of assessment and evaluation of fish augmentation actions.

FY05 Estimate: Monitoring will continue at the same level as 2004. The cost

estimate for 2005 is \$58,000 and includes \$25,000 for Denver Technical Service Center (Service Agreement) and \$33,000 for staff, materials, equipment, slip-rental, travel and per diem.

Project Description: This project will continue a monitoring program for two native

suckers in the Colorado River between Lake Havasu and Davis Dam. Flannelmouth suckers were reintroduced to the lower river by Arizona Game and Fish Department in 1976 when a few hundred fish were captured in Grand Canyon at the mouth of the Paria River and transferred to the river below Davis Dam. This stock has persisted through time and is the only known population of flannelmouth sucker in the Colorado River downstream of Grand Canyon. Some 30,000 razorback sucker have been released into Lake Havasu as part of a multi-agency fishery improvement program. This study will monitor and document status and

distribution of these fishes.

FY04

Accomplishment: During 2004, monitoring contacted only 150 razorback sucker and

suggested a population decline of repatriated razorback suckers since initial stocking. Flannelmouth sucker continue to inhabit the upper reaches of the river and appeared to have again successfully

recruited as young were found.